



Atlanta Antifascists

Cop and Klan: East Ellijay Police Officer Supports the United Northern & Southern Knights

[Thomas Dwayne Long, a police officer in East Ellijay, Georgia, is a clear supporter of the Ku Klux Klan. According to an online biography, Tommy Long has been with the East Ellijay Police Department since 2010. Before that, Long worked with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office. On social media, Tommy Long is linked to militants of the United Northern and Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan \(UNSKKKK\), an organization which Long also supports.](#)



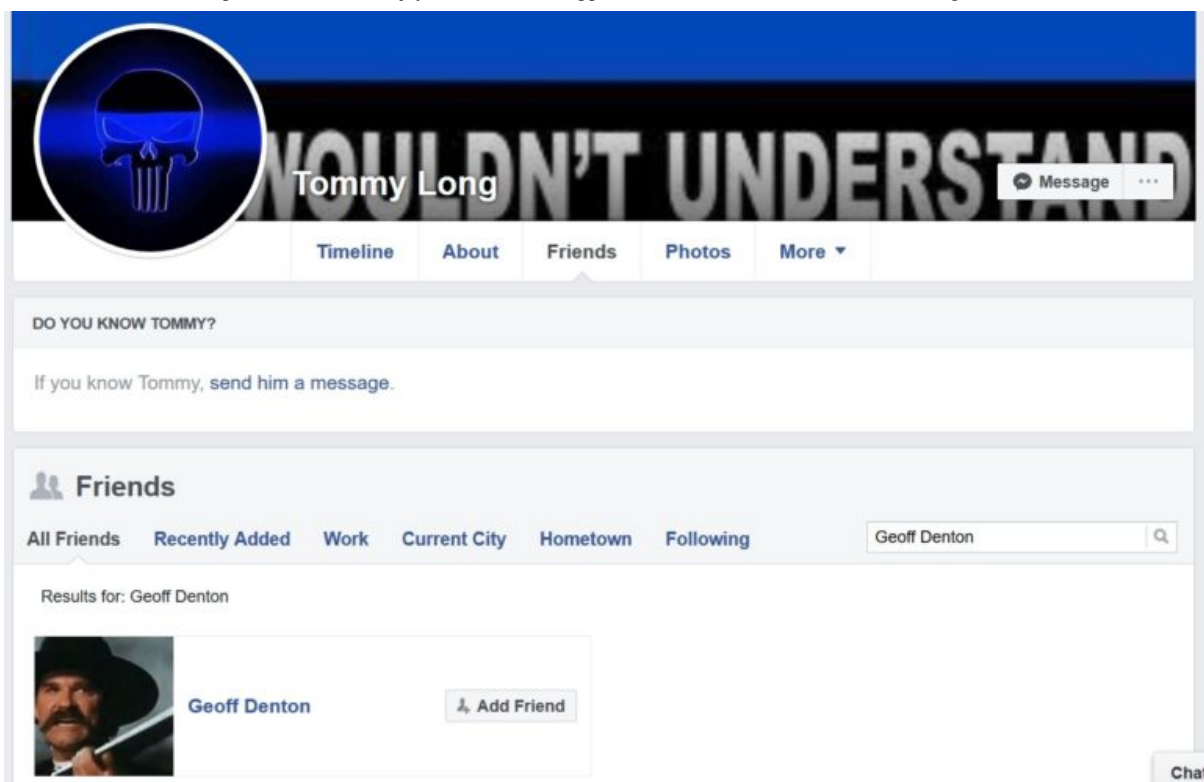
[Tommy Long](#) of the [East Ellijay Police Department](#).

[The Facebook profile for Tommy Long](#) is a reservoir of “thin blue line” pro-police images, Right-wing and pro-Trump materials, plus [anti-Muslim bigotry](#). [Long’s profile image](#), a “Punisher” logo combined with a (pro-cop) blue line, neatly captures his general attitude. [In August 2017, Officer Long posted an image of himself in uniform combined with a heart and the slogan “No place for hate”](#) – a strange gesture given Long’s association with Klansmen.



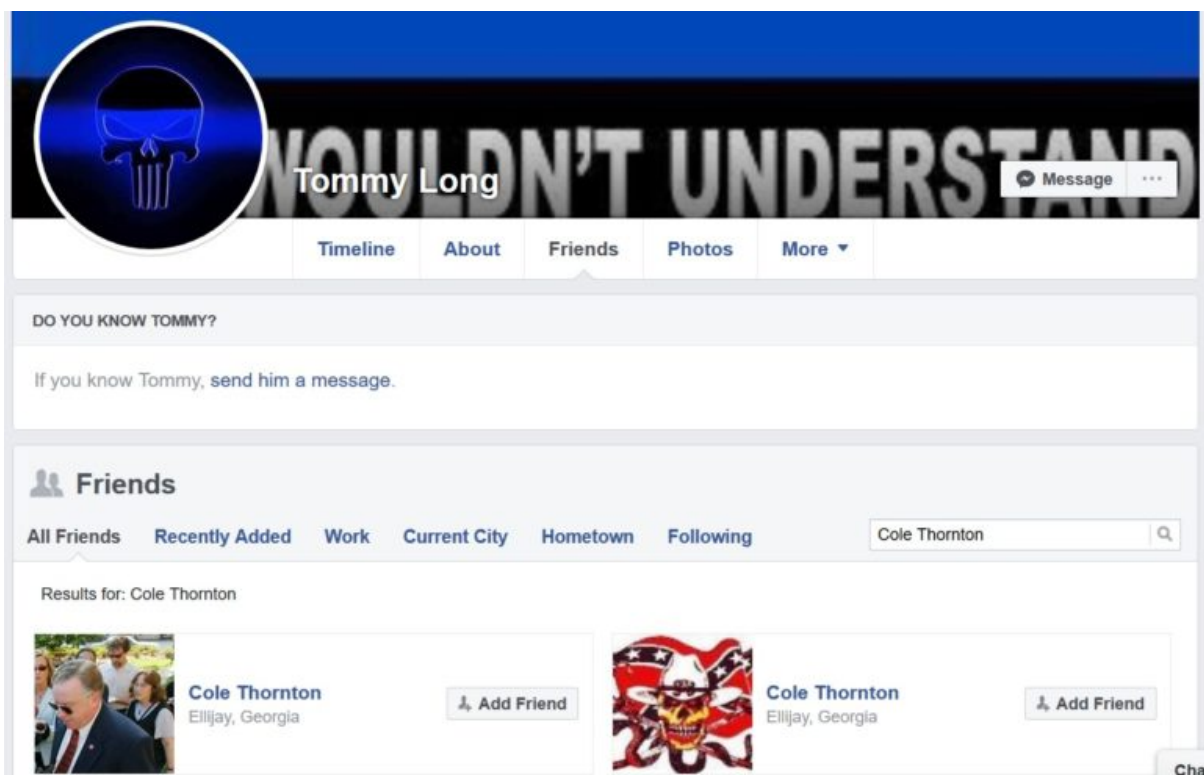
[Tommy Long Facebook profile.](#)

[Tommy Long's Facebook page](#) is connected to [three profiles for Charles Geoffrey Denton](#), the “Imperial Wizard” (i.e. main national organizer) for [the United Northern and Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan](#). Long’s page is also connected to three Facebook profiles for Justin Stephen Blue Owens, the [UNSKKKK “Grand Dragon”](#) (main state organizer) for [Georgia](#). Long not only knows these individuals; Long is aware that they are with the Klan and Long supports their organization’s efforts.



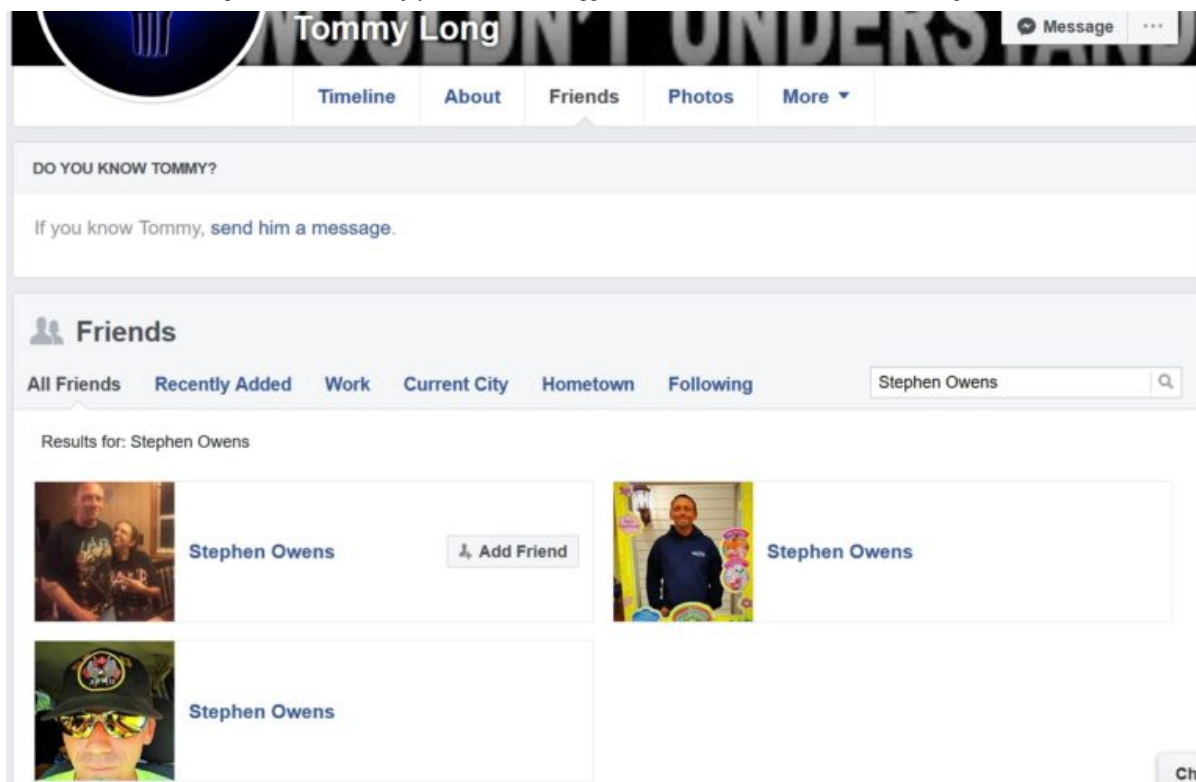
Facebook profile of Tommy Long. The profile picture is a circular image of a blue skull with a white cross. The cover photo is a blue banner with the text "WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND". The name "Tommy Long" is displayed. Below the name are tabs for Timeline, About, Friends, Photos, and More. A "Message" button is visible. Below the tabs is a section titled "DO YOU KNOW TOMMY?" with the text "If you know Tommy, send him a message." Below this is a "Friends" section with tabs for All Friends, Recently Added, Work, Current City, Hometown, and Following. A search bar contains "Geoff Denton". The results show "Results for: Geoff Denton" with a profile picture of a man in a hat and the name "Geoff Denton". An "Add Friend" button is next to the name.

Tommy Long connected to [“Geoff Denton” \(Charles G Denton\)](#) on Facebook



Facebook profile of Tommy Long. The profile picture is a circular image of a blue skull with a white cross. The cover photo is a blue banner with the text "WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND". The name "Tommy Long" is displayed. Below the name are tabs for Timeline, About, Friends, Photos, and More. A "Message" button is visible. Below the tabs is a section titled "DO YOU KNOW TOMMY?" with the text "If you know Tommy, send him a message." Below this is a "Friends" section with tabs for All Friends, Recently Added, Work, Current City, Hometown, and Following. A search bar contains "Cole Thornton". The results show "Results for: Cole Thornton" with two profile pictures. The first profile picture is of a man in a suit and the name "Cole Thornton" with the location "Ellijay, Georgia". An "Add Friend" button is next to the name. The second profile picture is a Confederate battle flag and the name "Cole Thornton" with the location "Ellijay, Georgia". An "Add Friend" button is next to the name.

Tommy Long connected to [two profiles](#) for “Cole Thornton,” Charles Denton’s Klan name



Tommy Long connected to [three profiles](#) for [“Stephen Owens”](#) (Justin S Owens)

Tommy Long is connected to one Facebook profile for Klan leader Charles G. Denton [under the name “Geoff Denton,”](#) plus two of [Denton’s profiles as “Cole Thornton.”](#) ([Denton is listed as Imperial Wizard on the UNSKKKK website under the name “Cole Thornton.”](#)) Although Charles Denton spent years doing Klan organizing from Florida, [he currently resides in Ellijay, Georgia.](#) Both the [“Geoff Denton” profile](#) and the two [“Cole Thornton” Facebooks](#) are [unmistakably Ku Klux Klan pages.](#)



Charles Denton and wife Cleve Denton, who is a “LOTIE” or “Lady of the Invisible Empire”

Charles Denton led the National Aryan Knights of the Ku Klux Klan before that organization merged with the UNSKKKK in 2007, when Denton/“Cole Thornton” then assumed the title of Imperial Wizard for the United Northern and Southern Knights. A couple of years before the merger, Denton showed up to trial in support of Edgar Ray Killen, a Klansman who was eventually convicted for his role in killing three civil rights activists during the “Freedom Summer” of 1964. On the first of his “Cole Thornton” accounts, Denton posted a picture of himself with Edgar Ray Killen outside the courthouse. This “Cole Thornton” account has Denton speaking to the media at the time of the Killen trial as its profile picture.



Charles Denton and Edgar Ray Killen, from one of the “Cole Thornton” accounts befriended by Tommy Long.

Charles Denton has a history of police recruits in his Klan. [Previously, there was a scandal involving the Fruitland Park Police Department in Florida, after officers there were revealed as UNSK KKK participants.](#) Additionally, [the current “Imperial Klaliff” or Vice President for the UNSK – Ron Beaver AKA “Ron Knight” – is a former detective with the Cabarrus County Sheriff’s Office in North Carolina.](#)

On [the second of Charles Denton’s “Cole Thornton” accounts,](#) [Officer Tommy Long “liked” a comment where Denton complained about “being called a racist by people that don’t know me at all” simply because “I am in the Klan”.](#) [Tommy Long “liked” several other comments on this “Cole Thornton” profile,](#) and [occasionally commented on this profile.](#) Notably, [Tommy Long “liked” a post by Charles Denton/“Cole Thornton” claiming that “a gang is making a pledge to attack police officers here over the holidays” and instructing Klan members to “go on high alert \[...\] get on out there \[...\] and... watch their \[the police’s\] six.”](#) Here, a police officer is supporting the Ku Klux Klan as it plans to operate as a police auxiliary.

**Cole Thornton**

January 12, 2017 · 🌐

Dear Congressman,

It really is sad to watch this action of the picture in the Capitol depicting a police officer as a pig. Our police are under enough defamation today without adding this insult. To hear other congressmen say if you don't like it don't look at it makes me wonder why the same does not apply to our Confederate ancestors? They want everything, including the carving on Stone Mountain, removed. Ridiculous. Sent this to our Congressman today. I am very curious as to what his response will be.



11

2 Comments



Like



Comment



Share



Tommy Long If you even get a response Cole thank you for your support

Like · Reply · 1y



1



Michael Cox If your congressmen is like mine don't wait for the reply!

Like · Reply · 1y

[Tommy Long commenting](#) on [one of the Charles G. Denton/"Cole Thornton" profiles](#).

**Cole Thornton**

December 23, 2016 · 🌐

It has come to my attention that a gang is making a pledge to attack police officers here over the holidays. ALL members are to go on high alert and pay attention whenever you see officers involved in something. Should ANY of them get attacked, you know what to do. Let's all get out there, keep in the background as always, and watch their six. This garbage is going to stop, one way or the other.



16

5 Comments

Rene Priest
Benjamin Moore
Seth Williams
Andrew Mendonsa
Gary Price
Jennifer Stanfield
Rick Bray
Steve Carreira
Mark Sanders
Andrea Owens Hayes
Lisa Denton
Anna Maria Lane
Bob Basala
Stephen Owens
Tommy Long
and 1 more...

Comment

Share



it. I would have an officers back without



2



EA



2



le !



2

**Andrew Mendonsa** Noted. I never leave home without it.

3

Like · Reply · 1y

[Long “likes” UNSK KKK plans to serve as a police auxiliary.](#)

[Tommy Long “liked” a picture of Charles Denton in full Klan robes, as well as a photo album from a Klan event featuring armed security,](#) so there is no doubt Long knows the full extent of Charles Denton’s white power activity.

**Cole Thornton**

February 5, 2016 · 🌐



Wyatt and Morgan. LOL.



19

4 Comments

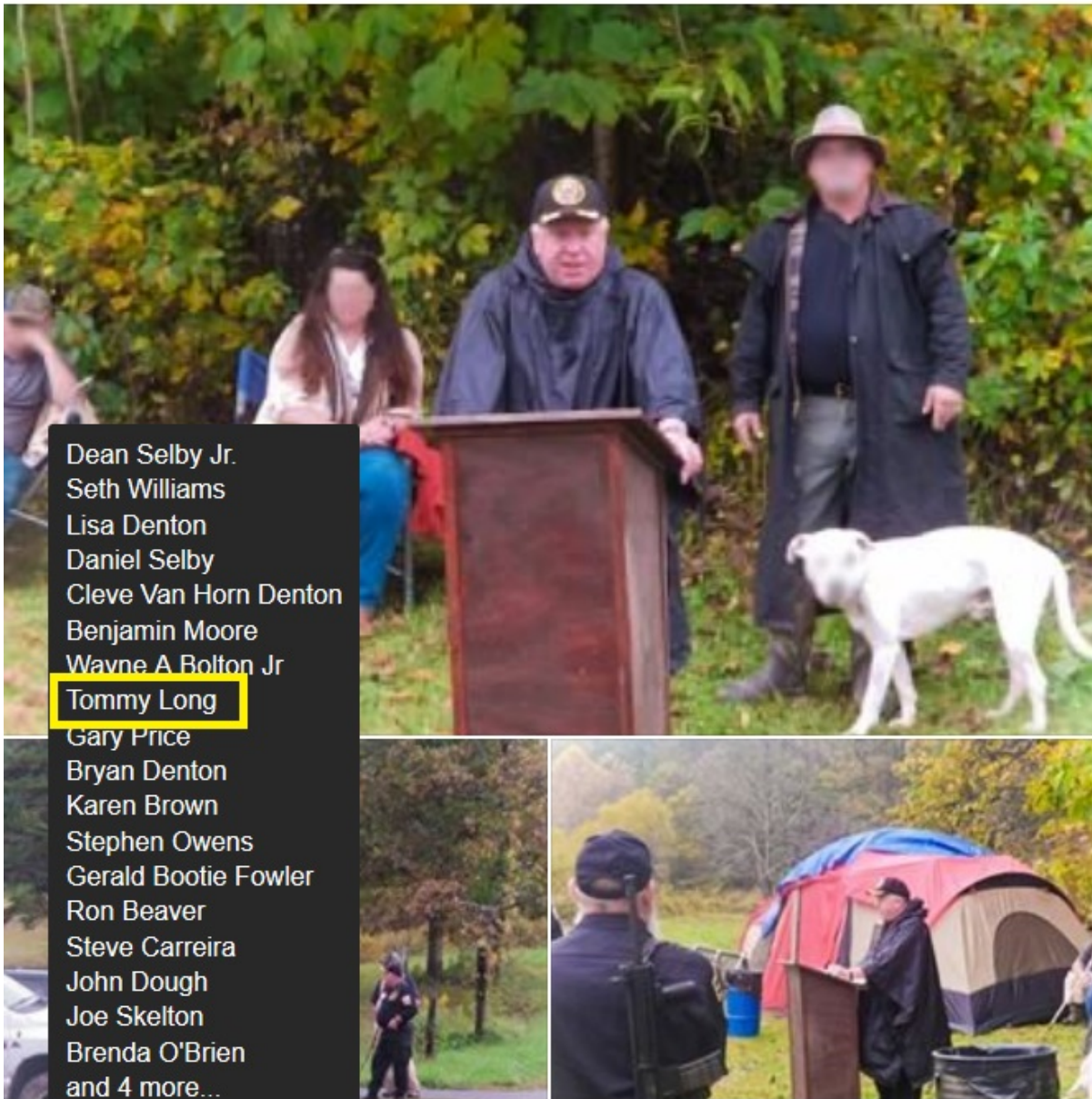
[Charles Denton \(right\) in Klan attire, "liked" by Tommy Long.](#)



Cole Thornton

February 6, 2016 · 🌐

Nothing like good security with men, and a dog, that you can trust with your life. Salute to the Knight Hawks.



8 Comments

[Photo album from KKK event](#), [liked by Tommy Long](#). “Knight Hawks” are Ku Klux Klan security.

On [Tommy Long’s Facebook page](#), Charles Denton [occasionally used his “Geoff Denton” profile](#) to [comment on crime stories](#), [where Denton would post an image of a tree and a hangman’s noose](#), a clear reference to lynching.



Geoff Denton Airdance.



5

Like · Reply · 1y



Margie Roach That to w

Like · Reply · 1y



Geoff Denton Lift him up slowly.

4

Like · Reply · 1y

4

Dean Selby Jr.
Leonard Eacker
Margie Roach
Tommy Long

[Comment by “Geoff Denton” on Tommy Long’s Facebook page, “liked” by Tommy Long.](#)

As well as Officer Long’s association with Imperial Wizard Charles Denton/“Cole Thornton”, Long is also connected to [Georgia UNSK “Grand Dragon” Justin Stephen Owens](#), who has [multiple accounts on Facebook](#) as [“Stephen Owens.” Owens is blatant about his affiliation with the UNSK](#), for example [wearing a UNSK patch on his hat in one profile photo](#).



[Justin Owens with other Klansmen.](#)

In 2016, [Justin Owens was photographed alongside members of Aryan Nations Worldwide protesting on the strip of road outside the Georgia Peach Oyster Bar \(a Klan venue in Draketown, GA\).](#) Last year, [Owens showed up with other Klansmen \(plus militiamen and neo-Confederates\) at the Marietta Confederate Cemetery, where they assembled in response to a Facebook event made by internet trolls about “Desecrating Confederate Cemeteries.”](#)



Justin Stephen Owens alongside Donna Phinney ([Aryan Nations Worldwide](#)) in 2016.

On Facebook, [one of Owens' profiles](#) includes a picture of a ring featuring a Klan “blood drop” logo with the letters UNSK. [Officer Tommy Long “liked” the post.](#) In another 2016 post to this profile, [Owens urged readers to stand up to Black Lives Matter and the “mongrels” destroying cities, ending his message with “JOIN THE KLAN!” and providing the UNSK website.](#) [Officer Tommy Long also “liked” this post.](#)



Stephen Owens updated his cover photo.



December 30, 2016 · 🌐



Tommy Long

Jon Welch

Andrew Mendonsa

and 2 more...



5

2 Comments

[Tommy Long “likes” picture of UNSK Klan ring posted by Justin Stephen Owens.](#)



[Justin Stephen Owens promotes the United Northern and Southern Knights KKK on Facebook, which police officer Tommy Long then “likes.”](#)

While we do not have evidence that Tommy Long has been officially inducted into the UNSK KKK, the above shows a clear pattern of Long’s sympathy and support for the organization. Klan and white supremacist groups have much to gain from bringing police officers into their circles: not merely numbers but the potential for intelligence, and the dream of steering policing even further against marginalized communities.

It’s clear that Long’s “anti-hate” rhetoric doesn’t mean much since he [can’t recognize](#) that [someone being a KKK leader makes that person](#) racist. And [Long’s](#) support for lynching (a form of extra-judicial execution) suggests that his primary commitment is not to enforcing the law, but advancing the values he shares with the KKK through legal or illegal means. The East Ellijay Police Department must now decide what to do with their Klan-supporting officer.

If you have more information about white supremacist organizing in our state – including by police or corrections officers – please [get in contact](#).

antifa atl / September 5, 2018 / Aryan Nations Worldwide, Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office NC, Charles Denton, Cleve Denton, Donna Phinney, East Ellijay GA, East Ellijay Police Department, Edgar Ray Killen, Ellijay GA, Fruitland Park Police Department FL, Georgia Peach Oyster Bar, Justin Owens, Ku Klux Klan, Marietta Confederate Cemetery, National Aryan Knights KKK, Police, Ron Beaver, Tommy Long, United Northern and Southern Knights KKK

Atlanta Antifascists / Proudly powered by WordPress